

dead bodies of Indian military personnel:—

- (i) Memorandum dated the 13th August, 1963 given by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Peking to the Embassy of India in China.
- (ii) Memorandum dated the 14th August, 1963 given by the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi to the Embassy of China in India.
- (iii) Memorandum dated the 15th August, 1963 given by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Peking to the Embassy of India in China.
- (iv) Memorandum dated the 20th August, 1963 given by the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi to the Embassy of China in India.

[Placed in Library, see No. LT-1674/63].

NOTIFICATION UNDER EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUNDS ACT

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Employees' Provident Funds (Sixteenth Amendment) Scheme, 1963 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1402 dated the 24th August, 1963, under sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952. [Placed in Library, see No. LT-1675/63].

12.49 hrs.

PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILLS

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table following two Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current Session and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on the 2nd September, 1963:—

- (1) The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

- (2) The Employees' Provident Funds (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

12.49½ hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: I have also to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

'In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 4th September, 1963, agreed without any amendment to the Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 1963, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th August, 1963.'

12.49½ hrs.

STATEMENT ON "OUR DEFENCE PREPAREDNESS"

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): Sir, I propose to make a statement on our defence preparedness.

Mr. Speaker: How long is it.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: It is quite long; it is nearly 12 pages.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to know the wishes of the House.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): It is an important thing. It should be read.

Some Hon. Members: Let it be read.

Mr. Speaker: I would certainly abide by the wishes of the House. I allowed an extra Calling Attention notice today and we have already taken 50 minutes. If 13 pages are to be read, that would take another 20 minutes at least.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It would be worth-while.

श्री बागड़ी (हिसार) : रोहतक के फ्लड के बारे में मैंने कार्लिंग अटेंशन नोटिस दिया था। वहां मिलिटरी भेजी गई है और हालत बहुत खराब है। इस लिये इस पर विचार किया जाना चाहिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या आप इस तरह से बोलें बगैर नहीं रह सकते ? आप ऐसा नहीं कर सकते कि इस तरह दखल न दें और स्कावट न डालें ? मैंने आप से बहुत दफें करा।

श्री बागड़ी : स्कावट नहीं डाली, मैंने तो अर्ज किया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप की मंशा कभी नहीं होती यहां स्कावट डालने की, मगर असर उस का यही होता है कि स्कावट पड़ जाती है।

श्री कछवाय (देवास) : पब्लिसिटी कैसे मिले ?

Shri Hanumanthiya (Bangalore City): In view of the emergency, defence is the most important thing. So, it may be read.

Mr. Speaker: If the House so desires, it may be read. I was told the was not feeling well.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I am feeling quite all right.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The Defence Minister should be strong.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: The House has already heard the Statement that the Prime Minister made on 16th August, about the heavy concentrations of Chinese troops all along our Northern

borders. There has not only been appreciable increase in the total quantum of Chinese forces in Tibet, all along our Northern borders, but the bulk of these forces is concentrated at strategic points closer to our borders than they have ever done before. There has also been a steady and constant build-up of war-like stores and maintenance supplies and considerable activity by way of construction of barracks, gun emplacements, storage dumps, roads and air-fields near our borders. As the Prime Minister mentioned, it is difficult to know the Chinese intentions, but this concentration of men and material may well be for use as a spring board for another aggressive action against India.

2. There have also been certain developments in Pakistan to which the Prime Minister referred in his Statement on 13th August. Although leaders of Pakistan are well aware that our defensive preparations are meant to safeguard security against the threat from our Northern borders they are carrying on baseless propaganda that these defensive preparations of ours are a threat to the security of Pakistan. We have also learnt recently about certain dispositions of Pakistan troops on the Assam and East Pakistan border.

3. Whether these simultaneous developments are the result of any understanding or agreement between Government of Pakistan and the People's Republic of China is best known to them. I am, however, mentioning the factual position to give the House a proper picture of the situation that this country has to face.

We have repeatedly made it clear that we have no aggressive intentions against any country and that we want to settle differences with our neighbours in a peaceful manner. So far as our border differences with China are concerned, we have, despite the crisis forced on us by Chinese aggression and massive attacks last October/November, accepted the proposals made by the six non-aligned countries

who met at Colombo as a basis for consolidation of the cease-fire so that on similar acceptance of these proposals by China, the proposals can be implemented on the ground and, in the atmosphere of peace thus restored, we can discuss the differences regarding the boundary and attempt to resolve the differences peacefully. As the Prime Minister stated, we have also indicated to the Government of the People's Republic of China that we are prepared, in case our differences cannot be resolved by direct talks and discussions, to refer the differences for settlement to the International Court of Justice at the Hague or to mutually acceptable arbitration procedures in accordance with recognised international practice. To Pakistan, the Prime Minister has again renewed the offer of a "No-war" Pact and reiterated that we want friendly and co-operative relations with Pakistan and we desire to settle all our differences peacefully. In the current climate of hostility and tension, however, we have, while keeping in view our main objective of settling, when there is an appropriate climate for peaceful talks and discussions, our differences peacefully, to take necessary measures for defence of our territorial integrity against any aggressive threat, the more so, because of our experience last year of a sudden and unprovoked massive aggression by our northern neighbour.

4. The first programme of our Defence preparedness is, one of expansion of our Armed Forces. I had already informed the House that we were planning to raise six Divisions. I am happy to report to the House that in fulfilment of our programme we have raised three of them. The remaining Divisions are in the process of being raised according to a time-schedule.

5. The raising of these Divisions has meant, large-scale recruitment of Officers and other Ranks. As regards the recruitment of other Ranks, I would like to inform the House that the actual recruitment is

going on according to our phased programme and I would add that our performance is more than satisfactory.

6. Since emergency, 3,175 Officers have been commissioned and about 2,677 Officers would be eligible for Commission by the end of this month. By the beginning of next year we would have commissioned more than 8000 Officers.

7. As regards recruitment of Officers for Technical Branches such as Engineering and Medical, considerable difficulties are being experienced. In respect of Medical Graduates, we have been able to recruit 40 per cent of Officers, that we would need for the period 1963-64. I must convey with regret to the House that as regards Engineering Graduates, the response has been unsatisfactory.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Unsatisfactory?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I said "Unsatisfactory".

Shri Nath Pai: During the Question Hour you said it was satisfactory?

श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण : मैंने कहा था कि मैं पूरा संतुष्ट नहीं हूँ ।

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I would say "generally, yes". I remember I said "yes".

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): "Generally satisfactory" you said.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: About medical graduates particularly.

We have introduced a number of schemes for attracting Engineering and Medical Graduates to the Army such as:

- (i) Ante-date based on length of service in civil employment.
- (ii) Protection of lien, seniority, civil pay and emoluments and other service rights in

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the case of Central Government employees. We have requested the State Governments to extend similar concessions to the State Government employees.

- (iii) Government have announced that for the present 50 per cent of permanent vacancies in Class I and Class II posts in Engineering and Medical Services of the Central Government, which are to be filled in by direct recruitment, will be reserved for Graduate Engineers and Doctors commissioned in the Armed Forces during the present emergency and released later. The State Governments have also been requested to make similar reservations with regard to posts under them.

- (iv) We have introduced University-entry Scheme for Engineering and Medical students. Under this Scheme provisional short-service regular commissions are granted to candidates studying in the final year of the Degree Courses of Engineering and Medical Colleges. After they qualify in the final examination they are granted short service regular commissions.

I hope with these added incentives, response for recruitment of Medical and Engineering Officers will considerably improve.

8. To sum up, the programme of recruitment and training is proceeding according to schedule except in the case of technical personnel where some difficulties are being experienced.

9. The rapid expansion of the Army has necessarily meant expansion of training facilities for Officers as well as men. In last October/November, Indian Military Academy at Dehra Dun had a capacity for 1800 Officer Trainees. Today it has been expanded to take 3,200 trainees. After the emergency we had opened two Officer Training Schools at Poona and Madras with capacity for 450 Officer Trainees each. Today these have been expanded to take 1,500 Officer Trainees each. The Army School at Nowgong which is meant for giving training to the Junior Commissioned Officers and Other Ranks, who are selected for Officer cadre, had a capacity for 230 Trainees. It is now being expanded to 650. This would enable a larger number of Junior Commissioned Officers and Other Ranks in the Army to be trained for promotion to the Officer cadre and also make available experienced trained Officers to the Army. We have also opened a new School of Military Engineering at Baroda with a capacity of 800. The capacity of High Altitude Warfare School has also been doubled from the summer of 1963.

10. To meet the increased requirement for training for Other Ranks as many as 15 new Training Centres have been established. Simultaneously the capacity of existing Training Centres has been expanded.

11. I have mentioned to the House only a few institutions where this expansion has been carried out. In fact such expansion of training facilities has been carried out in all training establishments of the Army and the Air Force. Simultaneously, Courses have been condensed and streamlined to meet our new requirements.

12. The Army has also been working out most appropriate forms of organisation for the task entrusted to it. The formation of Infantry Divisions is being adjusted to present day require-

ments of fire power and operational flexibility. A new Central Command has been established. Certain reorganisations have also been carried out at the Army Headquarters. The Commanders at different levels have also been made aware of their responsibilities so as to ensure that the accepted chain of command functions undisturbed.

13. Before I mention some other aspects of our preparedness, I would like to inform the House of the corrective action that we have taken or which we have initiated in the light of the Enquiry into our reverses in NEFA operations. As I have mentioned many times in the past in this House, the main object of the NEFA Enquiry was to learn military lessons. I would like to assure the House that these lessons have been learnt and learnt well. We have already taken several steps in the nature of corrective action.

14. For example, regarding orientation and training in the type of war launched by China all ranks at all levels have been given information and exercises in the type of operations that might be expected if China chooses to commit aggression again. Both individual and collective battle training has been stepped up.

15. The physical fitness of troops in the areas in which they would have to work has considerably improved. With regard to acclimatization, special scientific studies have been undertaken and the process of acclimatization is being carried out according to the definite plans. Greater emphasis is being placed on physical fitness in officers at all levels and it would be an important consideration for their suitability or otherwise for assuming higher commands. Battle inoculations in realistic conditions are now part of normal training both in forward and rear areas. Due emphasis is being given to inject proper concept of mountain warfare in the higher Commanders.

16. As regards equipment it is not merely a question of providing equipment to new raisings but the whole Army has to be provided with modern weapons, ammunition and other equipment suited for mountain warfare in the context of limitation imposed by shortages of foreign exchange and of industrial capacity. I would like to inform the House that even though shortages still exist in certain items, the position regarding weapons, ammunition, equipment, clothing—including snow clothing, blankets, boots and other requirements has considerably improved.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Not yet adequate.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I said "considerably improved." The necessary manufacturing capacity is being progressively built up in the country; at the same time research work is being carried out intensively into various problems that the troops have to face in operating at great heights.

17. I will now turn to some other aspects of Defence preparedness. Strenuous efforts are being made since last year both to improve the quality and quantity of the equipment available to the Army. The capacity to produce arms and ammunition within the country is limited even to meet our immediate needs. It was, therefore, necessary to procure equipment and ammunition from foreign sources. The House is aware of the ready response from a large number of friendly countries to our requests for assistance. Out of the assistance promised by the United States Government more than half has been received and a bulk of the remainder is expected shortly. Similarly a substantial part of the aid promised by the United Kingdom Government has been received. We have also received assistance in different forms from other countries such as U.S.S.R., Australia, Canada, France, Italy, New Zealand, Rhodesia, West Germany and Yugoslavia.

[Shri Y. B. Chavan]

We are very grateful to all these countries for the timely assistance they have extended to us in our determination to build up our armed forces to preserve and fortify our freedom.

18. In some quarters it has been suggested that the equipment that is being received by us in the form of aid is not being assimilated quickly enough and made available to the troops in forward positions. I would like to assure the House that these suggestions are not correct. Before new equipment could be distributed to the formations, we had to carefully work out their logistics, we had also to undertake intensive programme of training of our troops in the use of such equipment, some of which was new to our Army. This process was by and large completed several months ago and the equipment is now reaching the troops without any loss of time.

19. I am sure the House would agree with me that in the long run we must rely on our own efforts for sustaining our Armed Forces. For this it is essential that we modernise and expand our defence industries. In this context, I would like to inform the House of the results of our efforts in three or four important directions.

20. We have paid considerable attention to step up the capacity of the existing Ordnance Factories. The present rate of production is more than double the rate of production before the emergency. In no small measure this has been possible due to the exemplary sense of patriotism shown by the workers in our Ordnance Factories by working long hours to speed up production.

We have also surveyed the plant and machinery of the existing Ordnance Factories and taken steps for replacement of old or outmoded machines wherever necessary. We have undertaken modernisation of

tool rooms and improvement of material handling facilities. Some new lines of production have been established in the existing factories.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: No more coffee percolators .

21. **Shri Y. B. Chavan:** The House is aware that we had undertaken production of semi-automatic rifle at the Ichapore Rifle Factory. Although efforts to develop and produce this weapon were started early in 1960, it was later on found that to meet the highest standards of performances required of such a basic weapon by the user this weapon had to be improved in several respects. I am happy to inform the House that after great deal of hard work and effort by the officers and men of the Ichapore Rifle Factory as well as many others, they have now developed a weapon which is entirely satisfactory to the user. In fact the rifle, the production of which has now started, is in some respects superior to similar weapons produced elsewhere. The development and production of this basic weapon for the Indian Army is no mean achievement.

13 hrs.

22. Our principal need is to equip the Army with lighter weapons possessing improved fire power. For achieving this end, we had planned establishment of six new Ordnance Factories with the assistance of friendly countries. We on our part have proceeded with necessary arrangements for acquisition of land, preparation of plans and estimates for constructional work, making arrangements for supply of water, power and other necessities. To speed up construction we have appointed the State Governments as agencies for execution of works. Nevertheless I am aware that progress so far has not been entirely satisfactory. This is primarily due to uncertainty in sources of supply and the types of

plant we would finally get. Just at present we have received assurance from the United States Government in respect of supply of plant required for the Small Arms Ammunition Factory. We have also very recently received assurance of financial assistance from the United Kingdom Government for plant towards another factory. Regarding the other four factories, efforts are continuing to secure assistance and if we fail to receive such assistance in full, we may have to divert our limited technical and financial resources to meet our requirements.

23. As regards the setting up of factories for production of MIG aircraft, land have been acquired and all preliminaries for obtaining power, water and provision of facilities for training of technical personnel, railway sidings have reached an advanced stage. The factories are being set up in collaboration with Soviet specialists. As the House is aware we have also suggested certain improvements in the MIG 21 Plane to suit our requirements.

24. There are other fields of Defence Production where we are going ahead with expansion and modernisation. I am conscious of the need for expedition in this field and my efforts are directed towards that end.

25. Maintenance of our Armed Forces in forward areas calls for development of modes and means of communication. The programme of building up land communications in these areas has been directed towards meeting the high priority demands of the Armed Forces. Most of these roads are being constructed by the Border Roads Development Board. Till the beginning of June 1963 this Organisation had carried out formation cutting of nearly 1600 miles, developed land communication of over 600 miles and done survey and reconnaissance of about 2700 miles. The Board has recently approved a programme which envisages construction of 3000 miles of new roads, im-

provement and maintenance of 3000 miles of existing roads and surfacing of about 300 miles. I was happy that some Members of this House found it possible to visit Border areas and see for themselves some of the work which is being done in this direction.

26. At present our formations in forward areas rely to a considerable extent on the airlift offered by the IAF. If I could show the Honourable Members some of the airfields and dropping zones where they have operated this House would share my admiration, for the initiative and courage that these young men of the IAF have displayed in the performance of their tasks; they have not been deterred by the weather, terrain or the other difficulties that they have had to face.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: We would like to see NEFA also.

27. **Shri Y. B. Chavan:** To logistically support our establishments in border areas we have been able to considerably augment our transport fleet by obtaining additional aircraft from the U.S.A., U.S.S.R. and Canada. In November last, the United States Government generously offered us the services of a transport squadron of C-130 Planes. The dedicated manner in which the crews accompanying these planes carried out airlift of men, equipment and provisions needs to be specially mentioned. With the improvement in our logistics and our own airlift capacity it has now been possible to agree to the withdrawal of this squadron.

28. I have tried to place before the House an account of preparations that we are making to meet any threat of aggression on our borders. We are pushing ahead with expansion of Armed Forces, expansion of their training facilities, modernisation of their equipment and re-fitting them to step up their operational efficiency. To support the expanded Armed Forces we have undertaken a programme of modernisation and expan-

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sion of Defence Industries and creation of new production potential. This is a heavy task notwithstanding the assistance that we have received from friendly countries and the House would appreciate the limitations within which we have to pursue our programme. I would like to assure the House that measures to strengthen our defences will be pursued with vigour and steadfastness. We are fully conscious of the sacrifices being made by the people of this country to make these measures a success.

29. Finally I would like to add that an important aspect of our Defence preparedness is the building up of morale. During the last few months I have visited our troops—both the Army and the Air Force—in various sectors of forward areas. Our Jawans are stationed in most difficult terrain and are living in most inhospitable climate. Our airmen are performing hazardous tasks. It was a matter of pride for me that wherever I went I found them energetic, confident and working with unshakable resolve and determination. All that we are doing here, is to strengthen the hands of that resolute JAWAN who is standing a lonely vigil on our snow-covered borders and who would face the brunt of attack if there is any aggression. It will be a source of great encouragement and strength for him to know that his countrymen are doing everything possible to strengthen his hands and 'will' to fight.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: On a point of clarification, Sir.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): What is being done about the fifth columnists?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think any clarifications are needed at this moment.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): Only one piece of information.

Mr. Speaker: We have had that long statement read at this moment. We will be having some opportunities for referring to it, not only on one occasion but on more than one occasion. It is not proper that at this moment we should spend more time or discuss or debate it. Therefore I would request hon. Members just to restrain themselves from that temptation.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will copies be made available to Members?

Mr. Speaker: I will have copies circulated to every hon. Member so that hon. Members might study it.

Shri Ranga: Sir, I appreciate what you have said. I do not want any debate now. I agree with you. But I do not want to have to put questions later on when the NEFA question or any of the other questions come up for discussion. Speaking for myself I cannot here and now say that what he said can be accepted by me because I do not have the necessary information with me. Therefore I would only like to know one thing. Some time back we were told that the retired Generals, Thorat, Thimayya and Rajendrasinhji and one or two others, have come to be associated with the hon. Defence Minister and the Chief of Army Staff as advisers. So, I would like to know whether they had been consulted while this statement was being prepared and after it was prepared.... (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that has anything to do here. At this moment that should not arise. That is a different thing altogether. He can certainly know it from the hon. Minister and I hope the hon. Minister will convey that information to him.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Shri Nath Pai: I do not want to ask any question or seek any clarification, though I wanted to ask many, in view of your directive, but since

this is a very new convention you would allow us to express our reaction. We very much welcome this step which the new Defence Minister has taken in making a beginning in taking this House into confidence on these matters. I do not say that we are satisfied with all that he has had to say, but we are glad to see that at least an opening has been made.... (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Nath Pai: I will complete the sentence.

Mr. Speaker: No.

Shri Nath Pai: Do we become an audience? Do we not react to things?

Mr. Speaker: But reactions can be given when the opportunity comes.

Shri Nath Pai: It is a new thing.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Nath Pai should not get angry at this.

Shri Nath Pai: I want healthy conventions to be established in the House.

Mr. Speaker: Should I allow these reactions to be expressed by every hon. Member?

Shri Nath Pai: No, not all, but to some.

Mr. Speaker: Would it be feasible?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I would also like to express my reaction . . . (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: The Congress Members are more impatient. What shall I do?

Shri Hanumanthaiya: They get an opportunity every time.

Shri D. C. Sharma: You always give them an opportunity. But you do not give us an opportunity . . . (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri D. C. Sharma: They raise points of order and get up.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द (करनाल) : प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री जी का यह जो वक्तव्य है, यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है। इसकी हमें भी हिन्दी में कापी मिलनी चाहिये।

प्रध्यक्ष महोदय : शर्मा साहब क्या चाहते हैं ? उन्होंने तीन चार रिफ्लेक्शेज एक बाद एक मुझ पर कास्ट कर दी हैं। मैं उनको वक्त देता हूँ। He is probably the hon. Member who gets most of the opportunities in this House and then he complains.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I sent 'calling attention' notice on that, but you did not call me. Secondly, I wanted to know what efforts are being made to curb down the activities of the fifth columnists in all the border States where they are gaining strength and momentum.

Mr. Speaker: That is not relevant to the statement. I would not allow it at the moment.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: In view of the great importance of electronics in modern warfare, what is being done in Bharat Electronics, Bangalore, to help our war effort?

Mr. Speaker: That could be discussed when we take up other things.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): May I ask one question?

Mr. Speaker: No.

13.16 hrs.

MOTIONS RE: RISE IN PRICES OF FOODGRAINS ETC. AND FOOD POLICY—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will take up further consideration of the follow-